

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03245 131511Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----041209 131520Z /75

O 131415Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8269

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 3245

EXDIS

DEPT FOR A/SY/DASS, A/SY/OPS/FO; NAIROBI FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: MELOY/WARING/MOGHRABI ASSASSINATIONS

REF: BEIRUT 3184

1. THE ARTICLE QUOTED BELOW APPEARED 6/9/78 IN THE BEIRUT ARABIC DAILY AN NAHAR WITH A VERY SIMILAR ARTICLE APPEARING IN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE DAILY L'ORIENT LE JOUR, BOTH ARTICLES, ACCORDING TO AP CORRESPONDENT KRIMSKY WERE THE WORK OF AN AP STRINGER WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM ON HIS INTERVIEW WITH THE LEBANESE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR.

2. BEGIN QUOTE (AN NAHAR ARTICLE): SHEIKH CAMILLE GEAGEA, PUBLIC PROSECUTOR OF THE COURT OF CASSATION INFORMED THREE AP CORRESPONDENTS IN LEBANON THAT THE INVESTIGATION CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION OF FORMER AMERICAN AMBASSADOR FRANCIS MELOY, THE ECONOMIC ADVISOR AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AND THE AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER MOHAMMED MOGHRABI WAS NOT INTERRUPTED, AND THAT THE SECURITY FORCES ARE CONTINUING THEIR INVESTIGATION TO IDENTIFY THOSE WHO KIDNAPPED THE

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AMBASSADOR AND HIS TWO COMPANIONS NEAR THE COLA RING AND SHOT THEM DEAD. THE THREE BODIES WERE LATER THROWN IN RAMLET EL BAIDA.

SHEIKH GEAGEA ADDED: BECAUSE LEBANON WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A CIVIL WAR THE COMPETENT SECURITY AUTHORITIES COULD NOT UNDERTAKE ANY INVESTIGATION AT THE TIME. THEY

COULD ONLY OBTAIN MARGINAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLACE  
THE CRIME WAS PERPETUATED AND THE PLACE WHERE THE BODIES  
WERE THROWN. NATURALLY THEY COULDN'T ESTABLISH THE  
IDENTITIES OF THE CRIMINALS.

CONCERNING THE REPORT PUBLISHED BY A NEWSPAPER WHICH  
APPEARS IN THE GULF, THAT ABDEL RAHMAN AWADA, ONE OF THE  
THREE COMMANDO WHO WAS KILLED DURING ORLY OPERATION, TOOK  
PART IN THE ASSASSINATION OF AMBASSADOR MELOY, SHEIKH  
CAMILLE GEAGEA SAID THE INVESTIGATION DID NOT CONFIRM  
THIS STORY, ADDED THAT THE INQUIRIES ARE STILL TURNING IN A  
VICIOUS CIRCLE. THE AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT THEN SAID  
THAT AN EMBASSY OFFICIAL HAS INFORMED THAT THE  
AMBASSADOR'S CAR WAS FOUND IN SABRA AND THAT FATAH HAD  
DELIVERED IT TO AN OFFICIAL AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN  
BEIRUT. THEN THE CAR, AFTER BEING CAREFULLY EXAMINED  
AND NO FINGERPRINTS BEING FOUND WAS SHIPPED TO  
ATHENS.(8

SHEIKH GEAGEA EXPLAINED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER BUTROS  
HAD CONTACTED HIM AND ASKED HIM TO CONTINUE THE INVESTIGATION  
BECAUSE THAT WAS THE WISH OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN BEIRUT;  
END QUOTE.

3. IT WAS OBVIOUS TO KRIMSKY THAT AT LEAST THE PUBLIC  
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE WAS NOT ACTIVELY PURSUING THE CASE.  
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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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